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Statement on the third annual session of the Peacebuilding Commission

The 2016 annual session of the Peacebuilding Commission was held in New York on 23 June. The focus of the annual session was on transitions as a challenge to consolidating peace and security and the role of the Commission in diplomacy and political accompaniment.

The annual session concluded the following:

- Countries in transition from violent conflict to sustainable peace face evolving challenges, which have implications for the configuration of United Nations engagement. These transitions range from the Organization's transition from peacemaking and mediation missions to peacekeeping operations or special political missions to its transition from peacekeeping operations to United Nations country teams.
- The drawdown of peacekeeping missions, in particular, can lead to dramatically reduced support from the international community, including in the areas of political accompaniment, mediation, security and justice. This puts pressure on national capacities, particularly in countries where institutions are still weak and require the support of the international community to sustain peace and strengthen national capacities.
- The international community has a crucial role in supporting national authorities in the achievement of nationally identified priorities, sustaining attention and providing political, technical and financial support. Furthermore, and as recognized by the General Assembly, in its resolution 70/262, and the Security Council, in its resolution 2282 (2016), both adopted on 27 April 2016, it is critical to ensure that such support is provided in a comprehensive manner towards sustaining peace during all stages of conflict.

Members of the Peacebuilding Commission recommit to contributing constructively in this process by providing a timely policy forum for all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, regional organizations, international financial institutions and civil society organizations, to formulate specific strategic

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and targeted advice for the Security Council. This includes assisting with the longer-term perspective required for sustaining peace, in order to support countries undergoing transitions, including providing political, technical and financial support. Furthermore, countries undergoing transition can benefit from the work of the Commission in view of its role of fostering coherence among the three pillars of the United Nations — peace and security, development and human rights.